

**To:** Frithsen, Jeff[Frithsen.Jeff@epa.gov]  
**From:** Burke, Thomas  
**Sent:** Mon 8/10/2015 11:03:02 AM  
**Subject:** Re: Hydrologic modeling

Thanks Jeff. Will talk to Jennifer today.

Thomas A. Burke, PhD, MPH  
Deputy Assistant Administrator  
EPA Science Advisor  
Office of Research and Development  
202-564-6620  
[burke.thomas@epa.gov](mailto:burke.thomas@epa.gov)

On Aug 10, 2015, at 6:44 AM, Frithsen, Jeff <[Frithsen.Jeff@epa.gov](mailto:Frithsen.Jeff@epa.gov)> wrote:

Tom:

I suspect folks are interested in how far the release will reach downstream (Cement creek => Animas River => Colorado River) and what will be the concentrations of major constituents at each of several drinking water intakes, and how long it will take the plume to past. The spill was last Wednesday so constituents are already moving. To be accurate, I think a hydrologist would need specific information (flow rates, river morphology, and physicochemical properties of constituents). I heard the release was mainly of metals, which will be particle reactive and settle out.

Our colleagues in NERL (Athens lab specifically) have the modeling expertise. Perhaps speak to Jennifer?

Jeff

Jeff Frithsen

USEPA-ORD-NCEA

703-347-8623 (office phone)

**From:** Burke, Thomas  
**Sent:** Sunday, August 09, 2015 3:46 PM  
**To:** Frithsen, Jeff  
**Subject:** Fwd: Hydrologic modeling

Any thoughts?

Thomas A. Burke, PhD, MPH

Deputy Assistant Administrator

EPA Science Advisor

Office of Research and Development

202-564-6620

[burke.thomas@epa.gov](mailto:burke.thomas@epa.gov)

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Fritz, Matthew" <[Fritz.Matthew@epa.gov](mailto:Fritz.Matthew@epa.gov)>  
**Date:** August 9, 2015 at 3:42:24 PM EDT  
**To:** "Kopocis, Ken" <[Kopocis.Ken@epa.gov](mailto:Kopocis.Ken@epa.gov)>, "Burke, Thomas" <[Burke.Thomas@epa.gov](mailto:Burke.Thomas@epa.gov)>  
**Cc:** "McGrath, Shaun" <[McGrath.Shaun@epa.gov](mailto:McGrath.Shaun@epa.gov)>, "Card, Joan" <[Card.Joan@epa.gov](mailto:Card.Joan@epa.gov)>, "Curry, Ron" <[Curry.Ron@epa.gov](mailto:Curry.Ron@epa.gov)>, "Blumenfeld, Jared" <[BLUMENFELD.JARED@EPA.GOV](mailto:BLUMENFELD.JARED@EPA.GOV)>  
**Subject:** Hydrologic modeling

Good afternoon Tom and Ken,

As a result of the release in the Animas River, we would like to see if your offices have the capacity/expertise to conduct some hydrologic modeling based on the pulse of water/constituents? The regions are seeking information on a possible extent of deposition, etc. associated with this pulse or plume.

We can explain further to provide context.

Thanks.